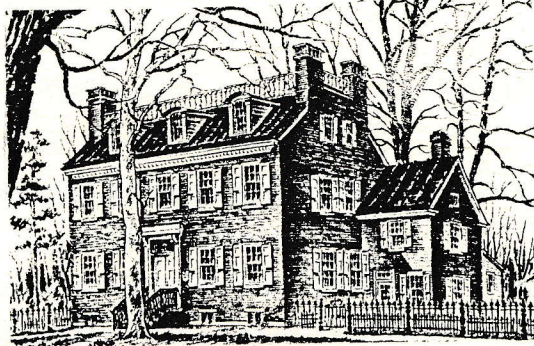


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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Greenfield Hall

Volume 46, No. 1

343 King's Highway East - Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

March 2002

Candlelight Dinner

Wednesday, March 20, 2002 6:30 P.M. Tavistock Country Club

IN THE SHADOW OF INDEPENDENCE HALL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES FROM THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER SITE

Our Candlelight Dinner speaker, Douglas Mooney, is the Principal Archaeologist responsible for directing the fieldwork conducted at the National Constitution site in Philadelphia. Excavations there have uncovered the best preserved archaeological site ever found in the city. More than a million artifacts associated with the Colonial, Revolutionary War era and nineteenth century residents of the city have been unearthed. Additional finds include evidence of an early prehistoric occupation, objects associated with possible Contact Period Native Americans and eighteenth century African Americans, as well as the remains of some 150 individuals from the Second Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Mr. Mooney's slide-show presentation will provide an overview of the archaeological investigations at the site and discuss the most important artifacts, many of which represent "one-of-a-kind" discoveries never before found in Philadelphia. He will not only highlight the finds from this site, but will also talk us through the step by step process followed in conducting this investigation, how archaeologists go about finding and

excavating sites like this, and about the wide range of work involved.

Mr. Mooney has more than twelve years experience in archaeology and cultural resources management. His Master's Degree in Anthropology was earned from Pennsylvania State University and he holds a B.A. in Anthropology from West Virginia University. He also completed two years of post-graduate study at the Institute of Archaeology, University College in London.

As a professional, archaeologist, he has participated in, or supervised, the excavation of more than 150 sites throughout the Mid-Atlantic region of the eastern United States and in England. His Experience encompasses prehistoric, historical, urban, and mortuary

archaeology. Mr. Mooney is the primary author of more than 30 technical archaeological reports and professional research papers and presentations.

Join us on March 20 for a memorable Candlelight Dinner. The evening's menu and a reservation form have been included in this Bulletin.



THE (PRE-) HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD?

This year we will mark the 300th anniversary of Elizabeth Haddon's marriage to John Estaugh. That's a pretty impressive historical pedigree we have in Haddonfield. But our history goes back more than just a few hundred years. One of the most interesting aspects of our history, and one that has put our town on a global stage, was the find in the mid-1850's of *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, the first important dinosaur found in America. That takes us back not just hundreds of years, but more like 65 million years.

Now, to tell the truth, while some of us like to refer to the dinosaur as our oldest resident, he would have had to be quite a swimmer to be here back then, since this part of the area was underwater. No, it appears our pre-historic friend was washed here by the river and currents.

I guess, like many of us who were not born here, he found a way to get to this area to make it his long-term home.

For Haddonfield boosters, we have an unusual dilemma living here. In other places they spend much time searching for some distinguishing factor that can make their town or city a place worth visiting and moving to. In Haddonfield we have so many things it is difficult to choose which to highlight.



Some of our advantages are things other towns can aspire to. For example, a dedicated town could try to copy us by diligently planting trees along every street. They could try to specialize in owner-run shops on the main street, with interesting merchandise and appealing storefronts. They could clear more park land and try to emulate Hopkins Pond and Crows Woods. But some of Haddonfield's advantages are ours alone. The Indian King and Longfellow's tale of Elizabeth Haddon's marriage to John Estaugh are in this category. *Hadrosaurus foulkii*, though, must head up the list of unique factors. If those other towns didn't plan for this 65 million years ago, it's too late to catch up now.

The dinosaur was first found here by local residents in 1838 in a marl pit, in a ravine that is now at the end of Maple Avenue. (One story is that back then some of the local residents used part of the dinosaur to adorn their rock gardens.) When it was later examined and assembled by paleontologists of the day, it was found to be the first "reasonably complete" skeleton of a dinosaur – a find that fundamentally altered understandings of what these creatures were.

In 1994 the diligent efforts of Christopher Brees, an Eagle Scout, resulted in the location being designated a National Historical Landmark and a plaque placed at the top of the ravine to commemorate the find. The site has since been enhanced, but for the most part a visitor (or even a resident) could spend time here and never know this part of our history.

Now a group headed by the Haddonfield Garden Club is spearheading an effort to recognize the significance of this historic find and add to the wealth of our history. This "dinosaur committee" is working toward an appropriate dinosaur project, with particular focus on a sculpture of the dinosaur in Lantern Lane (I hope one that is life-size).

Usually in the Historical Society we have focused on events at least limited to the last *million* years. But I want to encourage all of us to support this wonderful initiative. Jan Twitchell, who is my information source on this, is seeking your assistance and support. Perhaps the Society could stage one of its exhibits to fit in with the dinosaur project. Another complementary aspect for us might be something related to the so-called "dinosaur wars," an intense intellectual and personality battle involving leading paleontologists, including one who resided in Haddonfield. In fact, the Society has published and has available in our museum shop a booklet about the home of one of the participants in the dinosaur wars, Edward Drinker Cope.

If you would like to help with the dinosaur sculpture project, please contact Jan at 856-429-8589 (by fax at 428-7352) or Bev Aldeghi at BevAldeghi@aol.com. I recommend you do this soon – let's not wait another 65 million years before we commemorate this exciting and unique aspect of our history and our town.

THE PROMISE OF THINGS TO COME

For several years, both the Visitor Center and the Society have been receiving calls inquiring about the Christmas House Tour. The answer had to be that there was no house tour in town at that time. This year we'll be able to answer in the affirmative and give all the details to any and all.

The Christmas House Tour, which will include six Haddonfield homes, is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2002, in the afternoon from 1 to 4 and in the evening from 6 to 9. Tickets, \$10 in advance, will be available at the Visitor Center and at Greenfield Hall. On the day of the tour the tickets will be \$15. Our Historical Society will receive the profits.

Rounding out the day's festivities, the Haddonfield Business and Professional Association will be offering carriage rides and entertainment in the evening as part of the Candlelight Shopping activities.

In order to make this function a success, we need our members to volunteer to act as hosts and hostesses in the various houses which will be featured. Volunteers will mark tickets, collect money and greet people throughout the house. A volunteer orientation night, giving our members a feel of what is to be expected, will be held in Greenfield Hall in the fall.

Call the office at 856-429-7375 to volunteer for what promises to be an entertaining afternoon and evening. And look for more additions and developments in future issues of our *Bulletin*.

FROM THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee, composed of Chairman Jack Tarditi, Pat Lennon, Barbara Hilgen and Bob Marshall, have presented the following slate for voting at our next general meeting:

President.....Robert Marshall

Vice-President.....Dianne Snodgrass

Trustees, terms expiring 2005

Carol Malcarney

Nancy Martin

Thomas Mervine

Term expiring 2003 (unexpired term of Dianne Snodgrass)

Connie McCaffrey

Installation of officers will take place in May.

GOLF IN HADDONFIELD

by Betty Lyons

If you think hard, you might remember the Haddonfield Country Club located on the Hinchman Estate on Homestead Avenue. The Tavistock County Club is well known to everyone these days. But did you know Haddonfield had two other golf courses in the 1930's?

Fun for everyone in the family was the 18-hole Miniature Golf Course opposite Mountwell Pool. It had its opening on Saturday, July 19, 1930. The green's fee was 25 cents

For those on the other side of town who didn't want to stray that far to play golf, the Haddonfield Midget Golf Club opened its doors on the following Monday. That 18-hole golf course also charged 25 cents and was located on the corner of Merion and Haddon Avenues. Saturday night the whole family could play together for 75 cents and there was no limit to the length of time they could spend on the course.

Residents had their choice between a quiet tree-lined area or a busy highway which must have distracted some of the golfers. Today, both courses are a thing of the past. Unfortunately, there do not appear to be any pictures of either of them so it can probably be assumed that no one got a hole in one.

*Ed. Note: The publication, **Past and Promise: Lives of New Jersey Women**, included an essay on Elizabeth Haddon by Betty Lyons. Now, that article has been chosen for inclusion in the forthcoming **Encyclopedia of New Jersey**, a project of Rutgers University Press. We extend our congratulations to Betty.*

EXHIBITS IN GREENFIELD HALL

If you missed the Open House and Reception on February 24, you may have missed the exhibit of Haddonfield pottery and 19th century/early 20th century infant's clothing. The items, which will be on exhibit until late spring, include identified pieces, slips and large jugs from the Haddonfield Pottery Company which had been located on Potter and Lake Streets.

The Gallery on the third floor is also open. There you'll find children's toys, the large doll house, skates and sleds, along with a domestic corner which displays spinning wheels and other equipment from long ago. A real treasure area.

OUR FAR-REACHING LIBRARY

by Kathy Tassini

In November I received a call on a Thursday afternoon from Barbara Hilgen asking whether I could come over to the Library to help a researcher from Chicago with some genealogical information. After speaking with the lady, I realized that we in fact owned her family Bible and I knew that it contained the information which she was seeking. I was able to go over to the Society and provide her with copies of the genealogical pages from the Bible. As she talked, I realized that in our Bible Record Manuscript we had transcriptions of Bible information relating to other families in her line. Amazingly, while I was working with this researcher, another lady came in seeking genealogical information. She was from California and as it turned out our Bible Records Manuscript contained the Bible information she had been seeking for years. In our Abstracts of Friends Marriage Certificates, we had abstracts of two of her ancestral marriage certificates.

When the Historical Society was first formed, one of the priorities of Julia Bedford Gill, one of the founders, was the accumulation of information relating to the people and places important to the history of the area. Among other things, she organized volunteers to go out and hand copy marriage records and records from Bibles in the possession of various people in the community. Today we do not know the location of most of those Bibles, but because of her early foresight, the information has not been lost over the years.

Today ready access to copy machines makes updating this type of material much easier than it was in the teens and twenties when these manuscripts were created. Over the past month or so a couple of members who hold old family Bibles have been kind enough to either send us a photocopy of their Bible's title pages and genealogical pages or bring in the Bible so that we can photocopy the relevant pages and add them to the collection. It occurred to me that there may be members who would be interested in also depositing copies of their family Bible, marriage or genealogical materials here at the Society.

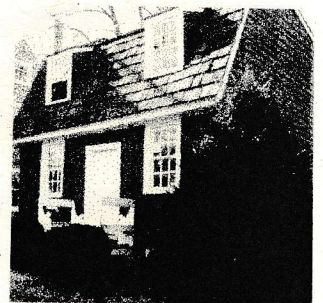
It is amazing how many people find their way to Haddonfield looking for family information when all they know is that the family was from the Haddonfield area originally and simply hope that we may have some materials on them. Of course we have extensive manuscript collections relating to some families but we have very little on others. I thought I would use this newsletter to encourage you to deposit a copy of your information in the collection if you think that in future generations people would likely come to Haddonfield seeking family information.

I would also suggest that if there is another location where people might seek your family's information, you should send a copy of your materials to an historical or genealogical library in that area. It is sad to hear how many family Bibles, marriage records and such are simply lost in moves or clean outs. If there are copies of the information in a library, at least the information is not lost, even if the Bible or marriage record is somehow destroyed or leaves the immediate family. In my own family there is a Bible with a name that is unknown to any of the living relatives. Once I solve the mysterious relationship in my own research, I will be certain to send copies of the important genealogical pages to Massachusetts where any other relatives would be likely to hunt for the data.

COME TO VISIT

Treat yourself to a visit to our research library some day. You'll be greeted by our enthusiastic librarian, Kathy Tassini, and her equally-enthusiastic volunteer assistants. The wealth of information stored there is certainly a tribute to the foresight of the founders as well as to the dedicated efforts of those who followed.

Our library is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings between the hours of 9:30 and 11:30 and in the afternoon of the first Sunday of each month from 1 to 3. To make special arrangements for other times, please call either the office at 856-429-7375 or Kathy at 856-429-2462.



A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL, 1853 STYLE

by Harriet Monshaw

They say that in the spring a young man's fancy turns to love and marriage: a history buff's interest turns to similar thoughts of love and marriage, but of the past. How did a man approach the subject of marriage then? Were most marriages arranged or did people fall in love and marry the object of their desires just as we do now? How did they propose? On bended knee? By simply asking? Or were their thoughts, desires and hopes penned with ink on paper for the recipient to savor for a lifetime?

Looking back 150 years ago, we have one solid piece of evidence -- the proposal letter of John Gill 5th, eldest son of John Gill 4th, builder of Greenfield Hall, now the home of the Historical Society of Haddonfield.



John Gill 5th

Following are two letters. The first is a proposal from 23 year old John Gill to his beloved, 20 year old Elizabeth Tomlinson. What is clearly evident by reading the letter is that John was "in love." Perhaps a little overconfident (as time would prove) but still an earnest young man. Apparently, John received an "encouraging reply" [how could she refuse?—Ed. note], as Elizabeth and John were married one year later on February 14, 1854.

The second is the congratulatory letter upon John's marriage from John's brother, William, who was three years younger. At first glance the writer seems to possess less confidence than his older brother and to revere him. But a closer reading of the letter shows that William's is much different in character from that of his brother's--a difference in style, erudition, and imagination. These factors would be the key to William's success in life (as time would prove).

PROPOSAL LETTER FROM JOHN GILL 5TH TO ELIZABETH TOMLINSON

Haddonfield NJ
January 12 1853

Dear Elizabeth

Whenever I have latterly [sic] had the good fortune to enjoy the pleasure of thy agreeable company, I have been vain enough to think, that I have not been entirely an object of indifference in thy eyes. Influenced by this conviction, and feeling [sic] towards thee a warmth of friendship, amounting to a passion [sic] of the tendrest [sic] kind, I am emboldened to make the humble proffer of my addresses—think me not presumptuous in so doing [sic] I think I may say that I have arrived at some maturity of judgment, suitable, I trust to my age, I have not therefore come to this resolution without having given a deliberate attention to the subject; Lizzie I have noticed upon all occasions that our sentiments & our views of things of [sic] very similar so much so; indeed that in the warmth of my enthusiasm, this letter I felt convinced to direct to thee, Oh! That this conviction may be realized; This, I am aware, I can not be unless I am countenanced in like manner by thy respected parents—and should I receive from thee an encouraging reply to this letter, I shall at an convenient sseason [sic] communicate to thy Father my intentions,

Impatiently awaiting thy kind reply, Dear Lizzie I now
bid an affectionate adieu

John Gill Jr.

CONGRATULATORY LETTER FROM WILLIAM GILL TO ELIZABETH TOMLINSON

[undated, probably early 1854]

Lizzie,

In resigning to thee the playmate of my childhood, the

companion of my youth, my elder and only brother, allow me to express a confident hope of his bettered condition. May you individually and mutually realize your most romantic dreams of felicity. The marriage tie is not only the consummation or legalization of vows previously exchanged, it is the combination of two true hearts sanctified by pure affections, the copartnership of two minds hereafter to be directed to the same purposes of life. Your pleasure shall be his happiness, and his success in the aims of life shall be your great reward. You have now recorded and proclaimed to the world your present affectionate confidence. Not present because I would throw a dark and gloomy veil over the evidently bright and pleasant path of the future, but as in this life troubles will come, and vexation is but the common lot of humanity, you may not expect entire exemption. But may your trials be but as the shower in the summer sunshine, short lived and vanishing (unpleasant for the time) but past, leaving a serene sky, a refulgent sunlight shining upon refreshed and invigorated affection and strengthening [sic] to more ardent devotion. Change is inscribed on every page of the broad book of nature, on the leafy forest on the bright streamlet, upon the sweatest [sic] roses. It is visable [sic] in the rapid decay of all that is beautiful. But, in true love, in the godlike and undying ardor of youthful affection there is not, cannot be a change, and if its existance [sic] hath a purpose here, it hath a nobler aim in heaven. As I have been the younger brother and consequently the weaker vessel, your government will be somewhat similar to mine, rather suggestive than directive. Still you can rule "with temper calm and mild And words of softened tone, you may overthrow your husbands cause and justify your own" leaving you--as all women are bound to be the rulers of all mankind, Prime Minister to brother John, I remain most

Truly

Wm H. Gill

Elizabeth and John were married on February 14, 1854 at the American House on Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, opposite Independence Hall, by Mayor Charles Gilpin. Only members of the immediate families were present. After the wedding and a six-course breakfast, the newlyweds took the train to Washington, D. C. for their honeymoon. Upon their return, Elizabeth's family had a reception for them at their home near Laurel Springs, NJ. John and Elizabeth moved into the house that John's father had built for them -- the site is 613 Warwick Road. Elizabeth's family helped furnish it.

John and Elizabeth had two children. John died in 1896 at the age of 67. Elizabeth treasured these letters until her death in 1926 at the age of 93.



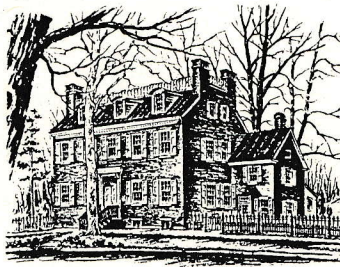
Haddon Farms, the Gill home on Warwick Road

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NEW IN THE MUSEUM SHOP

There's a new paperweight for sale in the Museum Shop. It pictures our stately headquarters, Greenfield Hall, and the library, the Samuel Mickle House, next door. It's the perfect gift for yourself or for a friend. Remember that members are always given a 10% discount.

Of course, when you visit the shop, you'll find much more. Linen towels, notepaper, tote bags, dated Westerwald Pottery, refrigerator magnets, books and publications are among the offerings. Come in and browse.



*You are cordially invited to attend
The Candlelight Dinner of the Historical Society of Haddonfield*

Tavistock Country Club

Wednesday Evening, March 20, 2002

Cash Bar and Hors D'oeuvres at 6:30 P.M.

Dinner at 7:30 P.M.

Program: In the Shadow of Independence Hall

Speaker: Douglas Mooney

Dinner Menu

Caesar Salad with Garlic-toasted Croutons

Soup du jour

Sautéed Breast of Chicken Marsala

Roasted New Potatoes

Medley of Fresh Garden Vegetables

Rolls and Butter

Dark Chocolate Mousse

Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, Tea

Please use this form to make your Candlelight Dinner reservations.

Reservations -- \$30.00 per person. RSVP by March 12, The Historical Society, 343 King's Highway, East

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Number attending at \$30 per person _____ *Total* _____

*If you have any dietary problems, please let us know. Tavistock will be happy to accommodate you.
Reserved seating will not be available.*

The following account relates the adventures of three of our fellow Society members. Their experiences may give some of our readers the incentive to set out on a similar expedition on the waters of the Cooper or along its shores. Barbara, Dianne and Kathy will be happy to share some helpful tips with anyone planning a spring excursion.

CANOEING THE COOPER

by Barbara Hilgen, Dianne Snodgrass, Kathy Tassini

If it hadn't been for the heavy rain the night before, we would never have made it. Canoeing the Cooper River, Barbara Hilgen's vision, was an activity appealing to all three of us. We wondered what the river along the Haddonfield border looked like today in comparison to 300 years ago when Elizabeth Haddon traveled upstream to manage her father's land in what was to become Haddonfield. We realized that the river bed was shallow, but not as shallow as Evan's Pond turned out to be.

The plan: Reconnaissance was first on our priority list. Meeting at Greenfield Hall one really mild and balmy afternoon in early May, after the trees and bushes had leafed out, Barbara, Kathy and Dianne drove to Evan's Pond for a good look. Walking the bank of the murky upper pond just on the dam's end, we found a man fishing for chain pickerel on the Haddonfield side who remarked about the water's depth – or lack of it. On the Cherry Hill side we found an easy launching site for our canoe.

On the Haddonfield side of the lower pond, from the dam to below the King's Highway bridge (also known as Munn's Meadow), Canada geese, egrets, marsh-like grass and a few ducks were evidence of the area's environmental return to a natural eco-system. This was the area where, before the days of the dams, the original King's Highway crossed the South Branch of the Cooper River. The small dam, just a few feet upstream from the bridge, presented a paddling problem, as did the slippery rocks and very shallow water flowing beneath the bridge. Looking up at the underside of this bridge made us shudder at its poor condition; some of the "rocks" in the river were fallen bridge parts! For our trip the only safe way to maneuver here would be a portage up and over Kings Highway with a re-entry below the bridge.

Moving on, we drove to the Grove Street Armory and hiked parts of the pathway down the river to where the water widens just up river from the Hyatt on Route 70 in Cherry Hill. Satisfied we had done the best we could on casing out our route, we continued with our plans.

Of course, we would need a canoe. The Snodgrass'

17-footer was brought back to Haddonfield on June 11 from Sweetwater. The night before our trip, it rained. And rained. And rained. And we worried that our adventure would need to be postponed. However, we awoke to sunshine, a glorious day.



Our Adventurers

On the Cherry Hill side of Evan's Pond near the dam, curious onlookers watched as three women launched their canoe loaded with paddles, PFDs, a picnic lunch, tall boots, dry clothes, camera. Dianne was in the stern, Kathy in the bow and Barbara was in charge of everything else.

Although our stated destination was down river, curiosity got the better of us and we proceeded inland, upriver, just to see how far we could go. We never imagined how far we would actually be able to canoe.

Only a few yards into our trip we must have disturbed all those chain pickerel that fisherman was after in May. Angry fish were swimming furiously along side, splashing, jumping out of the water; they resembled mini submarines gone mad. Dianne has caught pickerel in Sweetwater; it is not a cute, little fish you would be happy to share your canoe with. Barbara armed herself with the extra paddle preparing to defend the boat. Thankfully, they went away.

Paddling on we soon realized there was a lot of extra water in Evan's Pond (from the night rain) creating quite a current. At the upper end of where you can see from the dam,

we encountered a shallow area spanning the pond. Managing to push across it, we kept going, finding navigable channels through the large clumps of river grass. Hawks flew overhead. Spatterdock bloomed. Some time ago, this must have been quite a nice part of the pond before it became so silted in and overgrown.

As we approached the lower end of the Little League fields, we passed many balls and trash lodged in the water's natural debris. Kathy was looking for remains of the late 19th century docks and boathouses which used to occupy the south side of the river below the Ellis Street Bridge. No real evidence of these structures was found, probably because they would be in the dirt and marshes along that side of the river. Until the early 20th century, Evans pond was much larger and deeper. At that time, the dam broke and was rebuilt as a much lower structure, creating a smaller and more shallow lake.

We could hear road traffic crossing the bridge down at the Point long before we could see it. A couple of shopping carts decorated the bank on the Haddonfield side. Our town is not graffiti-free, you must know. Interesting (?) art work is displayed under the bridge at the Point and we were not sure we wanted to know what it meant.

As we paddled past Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church, we suddenly realized how fast the rest of the world was speeding by us in our manually powered boat. Cars make a lot of noise to those down on the water. Poison ivy was abundant and healthy along the bank here, as it was below the bridge.

We had been paddling a while now and were still struggling against all that rain run-off. Above the bridge the river had narrowed, making the current faster and harder to paddle, but the water was never shallow. In many places it was very clear. On the bottom was reddish-orange, hard, coarse sand, natural river weed and an amazing assortment of litter, including more shopping carts from the Acme, a bicycle or two, an old attempt at a floating dock, tires, more balls and toys.

Trestles from the old Marlton and Medford Railroad line still stand on both river banks, monuments to a former time when, in the late 19th century, a spur line was run from below Haddonfield. Farmers in the vicinity of Marlton and Medford used the line to ship their products to markets in Philadelphia. On the Haddonfield side, the trestle is located next to the Borough maintenance area. On the Cherry Hill side, it stands at

the back of the Tavistock Condominiums off Haddonfield-Berlin Road. We noticed a tiny creek flowing actively into the Cooper at what appeared to be the back end of Wedgewood Swim Club.

Strata of trash streaked with opalescent oil, many feet high, lined the river bank at the former landfill site at Crows Woods. At times the banks were low, but more often they were four to five feet high on both sides.

We were able to see the rear of the condos at Tavistock, not much at Winner Ford and some buildings and cars at Uxbridge. A clearing appeared on the Cherry Hill side where a man and woman were enjoying their walk. We were glad to see humans and they were quite surprised to see us. Canoers must not be too common at the upper reaches of the river. In a much wooded area between Uxbridge and our strolling couple, we saw some furry critter, probably a muskrat, scamper into its hole on the river bank.

At many places along the river, our paddles struck against rock – Jersey iron stone, most likely – an orange conglomerate. What hasn't been mentioned are the multiple spots along the way where we thought we had finally reached impassable conditions. We'd stop, hang on to branches and piece by piece pull loose entire trees, branches, lumber and in one place, a fence section. Several times we wished we had brought lopping shears or saws to ease our way. After clearing the debris, which caused a quick downstream surge, we found that we could continue our upstream voyage.

For the most part, the woods were quiet except for the birds – lots of woodpeckers. Because of the extra water, the river level was higher and traveling beneath overhanging branches and briars was difficult, many times knocking loose debris into our canoe. As mentioned earlier, Barbara was in charge of "everything else." After one of these tangles, the biggest spider we ever saw fell into the boat. It was brown and hairy and didn't live very long since Barbara whacked at it with a PFD. We don't want to know its identity. Barbara was much happier taking landscape photos.

After about two hours of paddling upstream we were getting tired. A PATCO train passed above the bank to the right and we could hear traffic on Route 295 off to the left. Passing a fairly large branch flowing into the river, we realized that we must be behind the Tavistock golf course. Listening carefully,

we heard the loud sound of rushing water – like rapids – on the Cooper? Sure enough, after a couple of meanders we encountered the Cooper River's version of rapids. There was a river-wide, perhaps 30 foot section of iron stone, like a shelf. Portage was the only option. Instead, we opted to turn around and head back.

If you boat, you know that to control your craft you must be traveling faster than the current. Whereas the journey upstream was a struggle, digging in with our paddles, poling off the bottom, the ride downstream was like an amusement ride at Disney World with the force of the water flinging us from bank to bank at the narrow meanders. There was no beating the current that day.

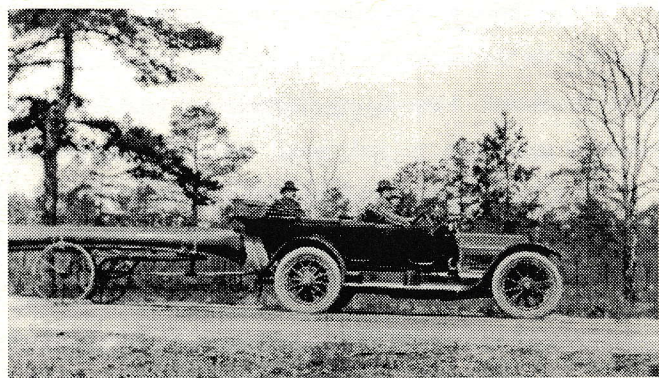
Heading back was a fast trip. We remember feeling relieved passing under the Ellis Street Bridge and laughing at all the junk now visible in the river below the bridge which had been submerged only few hours earlier. By the time we reached Evan's Pond, though, it was obvious we were in trouble. So much of the rain water had gone over the dam that it was now impossible to get a clean paddle across to our take-out site. We tried several routes only to get stuck in all of them. Dianne put on her tall boots, planning to step out and push, but her feet sank immediately in black ooze nearly to the boot tops. (It then crossed our minds that we might have to sit out there until it rained again, since no one could wade out to rescue us.) Suction on the boots was incredible, but Dianne did pry herself loose. She tried again, this time with just one foot pushing the canoe along like a scooter, inch by inch. Kathy and Barbara were on the lookout for the mad fish. We are here to write about our adventure, so you know we made it back.

Tired, sore and hungry, we had our picnic on one of the park tables below Croft Farm. The longer we sat and relaxed,

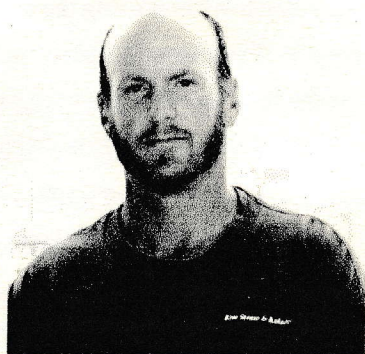
the more we realized we had best not continue down river (our original destination plan); we had had enough for one day. A trip which began upstream just to see how far we'd get lasted over two hours upriver and less than an hour downstream

If this had been a test, we would have flunked. We did not accomplish our original goal of exploring the Cooper River's entire border with Haddonfield. As for that, there is always this spring. After all, we have already done the footwork. Thank goodness for human curiosity, though. When was the last time anyone canoed up river? And how far did we get? Steve Snodgrass printed out a map for us to use when we hike back by the Cherry Hill Little League Fields to the Cooper River to try and find that Jersey iron stone shelf.

The goal which we did in fact accomplish was more elusive, but in many ways more satisfying. In areas of the river between the Ellis Street Bridge and the Jersey iron stone shelf, we found something which we had been searching for but did not really expect to find. We found areas of meadows and woods and quiet which must reflect what the entire river was like in the early 18th century when young Elizabeth Haddon first came to West Jersey. It really was a great day!



The way it was done in 1919



Doug Mooney, our Candlelight Dinner speaker, will take us inside the important excavations going on at the National Constitution site in Philadelphia.

Send in your dinner reservations now.

REPORT ON THE HIGHLAND CLEARANCES AND A MODEST PROPOSAL

by Don Wallace

Our "outback" northwest quadrant is now cleared of the volunteer trees and debris that had accumulated. Low stumps are still protruding, but probably by the time we decide what to do with this parcel, they will have rotted away, especially with the "stump-rot" soon to be applied. (The boxwoods may be three feet taller by then, and because I don't want to step on any toes, this proposal has been reviewed by the highest authority. Which means I'm being hung-out-to-dry here.)

This much brighter clearing, however, now brings with it a new challenge. The barely filtered sunlight which cascades onto the boxwoods and the soil will soon begin stimulating the rapid growth of weeds, wild grape vines, and Wisteria vines which must be contained. Some calm, wind-free day this spring, a systemic weed-killer will be carefully applied, as it has been to the poison ivy.

There will be a need for weed-pulling volunteers. Wisteria runners cover the ground back there. An able crew will need to constrain that regrowth which will pounce back quickly in the spring. This area will need to be maintained weed-free, which can begin anytime soon.

We have a view from the high ground now. Next a good plan for the use of this steep, westward sloping land needs to be developed. Here is my thinking out loud, just to give everyone something to pick apart, reject, or improve upon:

A lawn? No! Just more grass to be cut and on a slope at that!

A park? Hmmm.

A terrace? Hmmm.

An arboretum? Well, maybe....Hmmmmmm. How about: an "Historical Park Terrace Arboretum ???"

It could happen with donations of two park benches and one waste receptacle strategically placed at the entrance/exit crossroads, **FOR MEMBERS ONLY of HSH and The Garden Club of Haddonfield** and their guests, plus the use by renters of Greenfield Hall (or not - coordination problems!) It would be a place to stroll, to linger, to learn, to commune with neighbors and nature. Letters to the editor on this issue are also encouraged.

We could also establish a winding (lower) path loop with

select, special tree specimens and shrubs to attract birds naturally - NO FEEDERS. Plus special slow-growing ground covers and possibly certain grasses featured. Small plastic engraved signs identifying each "flora" with both common and Latin names.

WHAT'S NEEDED NOW...is an ad hoc committee reporting to the President composed of:

1. Chairperson
2. Grounds Chairperson
3. Rentals Chairperson
4. Technical Advisor (from Garden Club or HSH member of both organizations)
5. Tie-breaking, caring, capable, knowledgeable person with exquisite good taste.
6. A visualizer.

Purpose of committee: To develop a feasibility study; produce a plan with all parameters for utilization; to research species and facilities (go native, or combine exotic plants?); to establish estimated cost of project, seek donations, raise funds; and to report back to President and present to Board by February 2003 with full plan.

Now, fellow members, it's your turn to pick this suggestion apart and communicate with the Chairperson or members of the committee...if and when appointed.

As for a name, how about "Highlands Historic Arboretum" or "Historic Highland Arboretum?" What with a high road and a low road path loop, this would, of course, require the planting of heather and blue bells. Well, what do you expect from a Scotsman who mixes his tartans?

Don and his energetic group of helpers meet every Monday morning in the cellars of Greenfield Hall. They are continually improving the collection displays.

If you haven't visited lately,
come back to see what's been happening.

If you'd like to help, Don will be happy

to welcome you
and put you to work.

MEMBERSHIP

We are happy to welcome the following new members of the Society:

Terri and Glen Denton Kathleen Pearson Christian and Sherry Johnson

Lynne Bartholomew Nancy Weber Liz Albert Patrick Gorman

Pat and Harley Williams Pearl Barry

Greenfield Circle Members

Marilyn Geiger

Edward F. Borden, Jr.

During the latter part of March, renewal forms will be sent out for the 2002-2003 season. Please return the forms along with your checks promptly. And consider appointing yourself a volunteer to enlist a friend to become a member also. Use this membership form as an invitation or contact the office to mail one to you.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD 2002-2003

I (We) would like to join the Historical Society of Haddonfield. The type of membership desired is:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributing (per person)	50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Greenfield Circle (per person)	100.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Gill Society (per person)	200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership (per person)	500.00

Name _____ E-mail _____

Address _____ Telephone _____

Please mail to the Society at Greenfield Hall, 343 King's Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

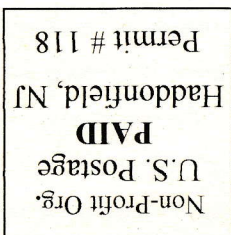
OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR MEMBERS

The rise – or fall – of an organization like ours depends upon the people who make up the membership. Each one of us has an opportunity to volunteer to help in some way to make sure that the Society continues to be the invaluable resource for the town which it is at the present. If you have any special talents or inclinations, or want to help in any way, please call the office at 856-429-7375 or the particular chairman to offer your help. All chairmen and their telephone numbers were listed in the September *Bulletin*. You can be sure they'll be delighted to hear from you.

GETTING READY FOR THE FAIR

You know how time flies. Yes, it's still wintertime, but before long, we'll be busily preparing for the June Fair. We want to remind you to think about the Fair as you're reorganizing your house and doing "spring cleaning." Please put aside any items which you think can be sold at our garage sale that day. We will be accepting consignments again and plan to have our boutique table in place as we have for the past few years.

Another reminder: be sure to mark your calendar – the big day is June 1, 2002, from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.



The Historical Society of Haddonfield
343 King's Highway East
Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD 2001-2002

Officers

President	Joseph Murphy
Vice President	Robert Marshall
Treasurer	Eugene D'Orazio
Recording Secretary	Patricia Lennon
Corresponding Secretary	Helene Zimmer-Loew
Legal Counsel	John Reisner, III
<i>Bulletin</i> Editor	Constance B. Reeves

Trustees

Term expires 2002	Joe Haro P. Markley Heston, Jr. Nancy Martin Thomas B. Mervine, Jr.
Term expires 2003	Sandra Ragonese Warren A. Reintzel Dianne Snodgrass Karen Weaver
Term expires 2004	Carol Smith Jack Tarditi Deborah Mervine Shirley Raynor